staff, 6 were caused due to the failure of other then Railway staff and 3 accidents were due to equipment failure and incidental.

(d) Safety is the prime concern of Indian Railways and adoption of new measures to improve safety is a continuous process. Measures being taken by Indian Railways to minimize incidence of accidents include adoption of suitable modern technology for interlocking and signaling system, upgradation of standards of track and rolling stock, modernization of maintenance practices, replacement of over aged assets, upgradation of training aids like simulators, checks on observance of safety precautions and provision of Anti Collision Device. Moreover, disciplinary action is taken against those Railway official who are held responsible for the accident.

Doubling of Ernakulam-Kottayam-Kayamkulam sector

2167. PROF. P.J. KURIAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the doubling of Ernakulam-Kottayam-Kayamkulam sector in Kerala has been taken up this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the expected time of completion of the above work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) On Ernakulam-Kottayam-Kayamkulam route, patch doubling of Ernakulam-Mulanturutti, Kayamkulam-Mavelikara, Mavelikara-Chengannur sections have been taken up where works are in various stages of progress. Patch doubling of Mulanturutti-Kuruppantara section has been included in the supplementary budget 2005-06.

No target date for completion of these works has been fixed.

Railway line from Secunderabad to Kareemnagar

2168. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would release budget for the project of laying a railway line from Secunderabad to Kareemnagar *via* Siddipet in view